

ARTICLES

To be

ENQUIRED OF

In the

VISITATION

Of the Worshipful

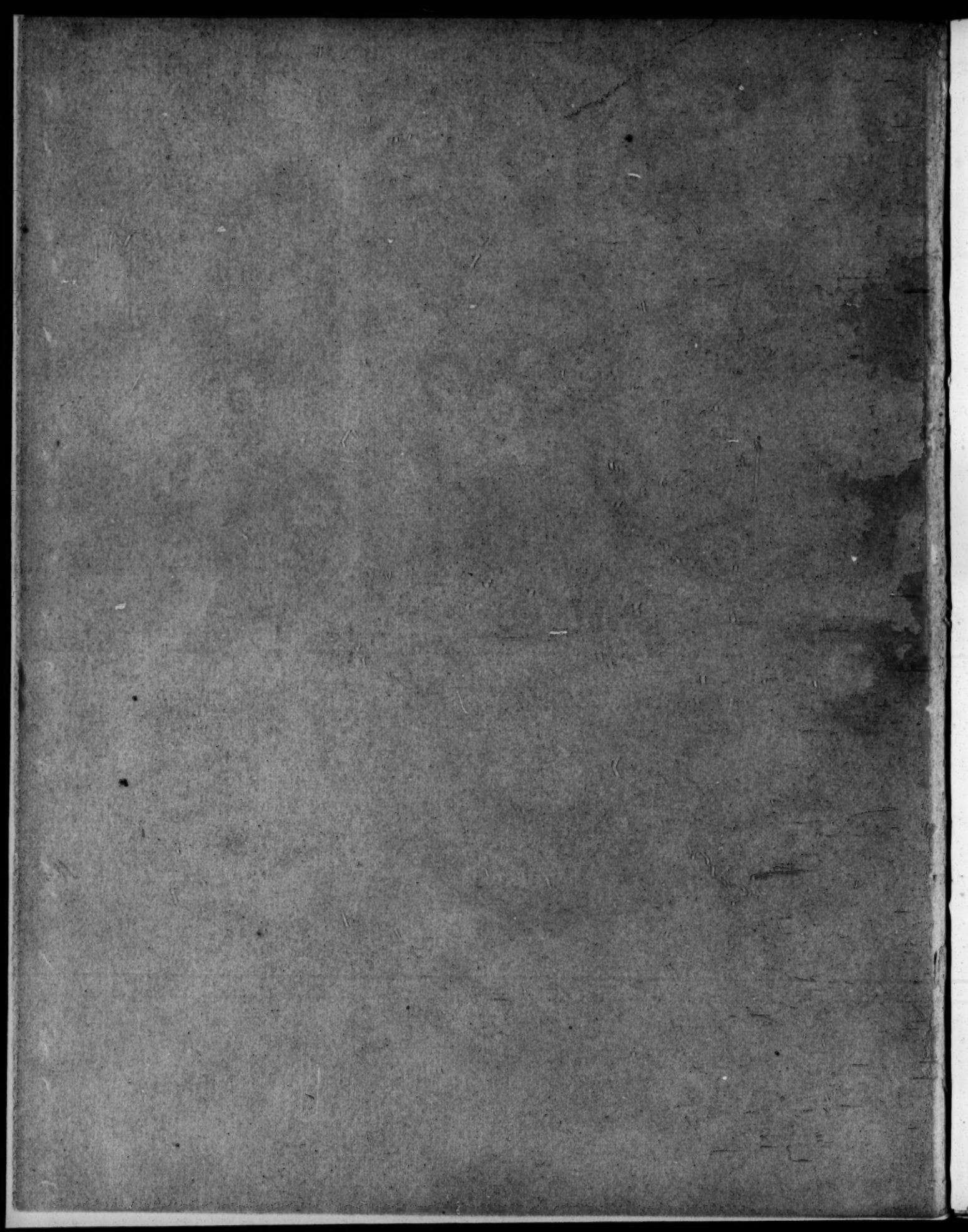
John Palmer,

Archdeacon of

Northampton.

L O N D O N :

Printed in the Year MDCLXVI.



Trinity College, Hartford
& Canterbury Cathedral only.

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JOHN PALMER,

Archdeacon of *Northampton.*

Whereupon Presentment is to be made by the Church-wardens, and Side-men, for that purpose lawfully appointed in Visitations, Synods and elsewhere, within the Jurisdiction aforesaid, at any other time and place, when occasion shall be offered.

I.  Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, be lawfully licensed to Preach, and doth Preach every Sunday according to the Law in that behalf.

II. Whether he doth reberently say or read Divine Service every Sunday and Holiday, and administer the Holy Sacraments according to the Book of Common Prayer, without any alteration of any part thereof.

III. Whether doth he at every time that he doth celebrate

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celebrate Divine Service, or administer the Holy Sacraments, wear the Surplice, (and also a Hood answerable to his degree, (if he be a Graduate) and use and observe other the Rites and Ceremonies appointed by the Laws now in force, and administer the Holy Communion to himself kneeling, and to those only that kneel at the time of receiving it?

IV. Whether have ye monethly Sermons at the least in your Parish-Church if your Minister be no Preacher licensed; and weekly, if he be a licensed Preacher? And whether are the Homilies read when there are no Sermons?

V. Whether is your Parson or Vicar known, or by common fame noted to have come to his Benefice by Simony, or to follow lay and secular Trades and courses? or doth he neglect or leave his calling of the Ministry, or the due performance thereof?

VI. Whether any person not being Deacon is suffered to say Divine Service in your Church, or to administer the Holy Sacraments, or to Marry any persons, or to Bury the dead.

VII. Whether your Lecturer or Preacher, or your Parson, or Vicar, though he have a Curate, yet doth he himself twice in each year on two several Sundayes both before noon and after noon celebrate Divine Service, and as often each year administer the Holy Sacraments of Baptism and the Lords Supper?

VIII. Whether your Parson or Vicar be continually resident upon his Benefice, and upon his Parsonage-House or Vicarage-House: And whether he hath any more Benefices or Cures than one: And if he have, whether then doth he keep such a Curate as is a Preaching Minister, lawfully licensed, upon and at the Benefice where himself your said Parson or Vicar doth not dwell, reside or continue?

IX. Whether your Parson, Vicar or Curate hath publickly or otherwise spoken against the Order or Government of the Church of England, or the Book of Common Prayer established by Law.

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X. Whether your Minister doth use to pray for the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by the same Title and Title due to His Majesty.

XI. Whether your Minister doth openly in the Church catechise such as be of convenient age, according to the Order set forth in the Book of Common Prayer; and who be negligent in coming to be catechised?

XII. Whether hath your Minister refused or delayed to Christen any child or children within your Parish, which have dyed after unbaptized, or do refuse or delay to bury any dead corpses?

XIII. Are the fifth of November, the thirtieth of January, and the twenty ninth of May observed according as is ordained in that behalf?

XIV. Is your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer a man of a sober, unblameable and exemplary life? or is he a frequenter of Taverns or Ale-houses, a common Gamester, a profane or obscene Jester, a Swearer, Raver, Scoffer or Quarreller? doth he set Neighbours at Variance one with another, or encourage them to suits and contention? Is he noted to be an Intemperate Drinker, or vehemently suspected of Incontinency with any person, either within your Parish or without? Is his apparel grave and decent, both for fashion and colour as the Canons of the Church require? is or his carriage and conversation in any kind whatsoever disorderly or scandalous, and unbecoming a Minister of Jesus Christ?

XV. Whether do any practise Physick or Chirurgery, or doth any School-master teach either openly or privately, in any School, Gentlemens houses, or otherwise, or any Curate serbe the Cure within your Parish, without licence of his Ordinary, under his authentick Seale, or no?

XVI.



Whether your Church or Chancel, or the Steeple, Bells, Seats, Leads, Pavements, Glasse-windows, Roof or Walls of the same, or the Parsonage or Vicarage houses, be ruinous or decayed, and by whose default.

Whether is your Church-yard cleanly kept, and the walls and bounds of your Church-yard in good and sufficient repair?

XVII. Do ye know any that have lost, sold, or suffered to decay, or made away any of the Bells, Clock, Chimes, or other goods belonging to the Church, or do withhold any of the Church-stock or goods? And whether any Lands, Goods or Chattels belonging to the Church be not used and employed as by Law they ought to be?

XVIII. Whether ye have a comely Pulpit well placed within your Church, a decent Table for the Holy Communion, with a fair linnen cloath to lay upon the same, and some Carpet of Silk, Stuff, or fine Woollen cloath, for the clean keeping thereof; a fair comely Communion-cup, and cover of silver for the same; a Font of Stone for Baptisme, and a decent large Surplice with Sleeves; one Bible of the last Translation in a large Volume, and the Book of Common Prayer, both well and substantially bound. Have ye likewise the Book of Homilies set forth by Authority? a Book of Canons and Constitutions Ecclesiastical? a Printed Table of the degrees wherein Mariage is prohibited?

XIX. Whether the Register-Book of Mariages, Christenings and Burials within your Parish be made of Parchment, duly kept and subscribed, and other things concerning the same be observed according to the Canons made and established by Authority in that behalf.


XX. Have ye a Chest with three Locks and Keys wherein to keep the aforesaid Books, and other the aforesaid furniture? And have ye all other necessary things appointed to be had by lawful Authority?

XXI.

XXI. Have any trees been felled or cut down in your Church-yard, and by whom?

XXII. Is there a sufficient Tarrar of all the Glebeland belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage, and exhibited into the Registers Office, as by Law it ought?

XXIII. Whether have your old Church-wardens omitted to make a true and perfect account to the Parish of their said Office? Have ye a Book wherewith to write down the Church-wardens accounts: as also another Book wherewith are Registered or written the names of all strangers that preach in your Parish: and is it kept and used and subscribed according to Law in that behalf?

XXIV.  Whether all Persons above sixteen years of age do repair to the Church upon Sundays and Holidays: And whether have any absented themselves from Church, or Divine Service there celebrated, contrary to the Law; and how many several times, and who hath so done?

XXV. Is there any person in your Parish, who being sixteen years of age, and well instructed in Religion, doth not receive the Sacrament of the Lords Supper at least three times in the year, of which Easter is always to be one? Doth any in your Parish refuse to receive the same kneeling, or from the hands of your own Minister, repairing for it to other Parishes and Ministers abroad? Or are there any strangers not of your Parish that forsake their own Churches, and usually repair to yours for it?

XXVI. Do ye know any common Swearer, Drunkard, or Blasphemer, any Simoniacal person, any guilty of Fornication, Adultery or Incest, or any vehemently suspected, or by common fame noted or infamed of any such crimes?

XXVII. Do ye know any person excommunicated in your Parish? Doth your Minister denounce him
and

and all other excommunicated persons in your Parish Church or Chappel: And whether doth any such excommunicated person repair to the Church to hear Divine Service or Sermons: And whether any of your Parish do keep company with, or set on work, such excommunicated person, and what be their names that do so?

XXVIII. Do ye know of any that use Conventicles or meetings for expounding of Scriptures or saying of Prayers in private houses or places?

XXIX. Do ye know in your Parish any receivers of Jesuites, Seminary or Wassing Priests; and what be the names and surnames of all Recusants or half Recusants that come not to Church to hear Divine Service, or if they do, that yet do not receive the Holy Communion as by Law they ought?

XXX. Whether have you any in your Parish Married within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity forbidden by the Law. Have any been married clandestinely, that is to say, in such Parish where neither the parties their Parents and Guardians, nor any of them were dwelling; or without Banns and License, or in private houses, or at unlawful times: or do any live together as man and wife, before it be known that they are married?

XXXI. Whether have any quarrelled, brawled, fought or used violence in your Church or Church-yard; or have kept open their Shop-windows or Doors, or Sold or Bought any Wares upon Sundays or Holidays in the time of Divine Service; or have received any into their House to eat, drink or play in the time of Sermon or Divine Service; or have administered upon the goods of the dead without Authority from the Ordinary, or detain any Legacies given to the poor, or to Religious uses?

XXXII. Whether in the Rogation-week the Perambulation in your Parish is gone yearly, as by Law it ought? And if not, by whose default is it neglected?

XXXIII. Doth every person reverently uncover his head, and so continue all the time of Divine Service in the Church? Do they all reverently kneel at the Prayers

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ers, and stand up when the Creed and Gospel are read, making due reberence when the name of our Lord Iesus is mentioned?

XXXIV. Do any come late or negligently to Church to publick Prayers, or depart before Divine Service or Sermon is ended?

XXXV. Are there any Married women in your Parish, who after their delivery from the peril of child-birth refuse to make their publick thanksgivings to God in the Church? And when they come so to do, do they come decently apparelled, and make their offerings according to custom?

XXXVI. Doth any of your Parish refuse to pay to the Clerk or Sexton such wages or dues as have been to them accustomed?

XXXVII. Whether have any unreverently used your Minister, or laid violent hands upon him, or disgraced his Office or Calling by word or deed?

XXXVIII. Are there any belonging to your Parish who refuse to pay their duty for Easter-Offerings to your Minister? or any that refuse to contribute and pay the rate Assessed upon them for the repair of your Church or Chappel, and for the providing of such Books, Furniture, and Ornamentals as be requisite for the performance of all divine Offices there?

XXXIX. Do any abuse the Church-wardens or Side-men of your Parish, or give them ill words for doing their Office according to their Oath and Duty?

XL. Whether do ye know any other matter worthy of presentment above not exprest, the Reformation whereof belongeth to the Ecclesiastical Courts, which you are likewise to present by vertue of your Oaths, with the names and surnames of all such as have in them, or in any of them offended, or by common fame are thought to have offended.

F I N I S.



The Tenor of the Oath to be Administred to the Church-Wardens and Side-men of every Parish.

YOU shall well and truly execute the Office of Church-Wardens (or Side-men) in the Parish of N. and true presentment make according to your Articles given you in Charge, to the best of your knowledge, and so far as by Law you are bound. *So help you God.*



